Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 AF-06 ARA-06 EUR-12 NEA-10

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P R 160920Z SEP 75 FM AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3536 USMISSION USUN PRIORITY INFO AMEMBASSY SEOUL AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

CONFIDENTIAL SINGAPORE 4045

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UNSC, UNGA, KS, KN SUBJECT: KOREAN ITEM IN THE UN

REF: (A) STATE 195240; (B) STATE 201606

1. ON SEPTEMBER 12 I TOOK OPPORTUNITY PROVIDED BY CALL ON SENIOR MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS LEE KHOON CHOY ON ANOTHER MATTER TO GO OVER WITH HIM POINTS OUTLINED IN REFTELS RE KOREAN ITEM IN THE UN. IN VIEW OF FACT SINGAPORE HAS RECENTLY UPGRADED ITS RELATIONS WITH ROK FROM CONSULATE GENERAL TO EMBASSY LEVEL, I LAID PARTICULAR STRESS ON PARA. 1A, REFTEL A AND EXPLAINED RELATIONSHIP OF UN COMMAND TO US FORCES IN KOREA. I EXPLAINED FURTHER OUR WILLINGNESS TO TERMINATE UN COMMAND PROVIDED THAT ARMISTICE AGREEMENT CONTINUES IN EFFECT. IN CONCLUSION I EXPRESSED HOPE THAT GOS WOULD VOTE AFFIRMATIVELY ON FRIENDLY RESOLUTION AND VOTE AGAINST HOSTILE RESOLUTION. LEE KHOON CHOY LISTENED ATTENTIVELY AND COMMENTED THAT IN VIEW OF SINGAPORE'S ACTION IN UPGRADING GOS-ROK RELATIONS IT WOULD HARDLY VOTE FOR RESOLUTION WHICH IGNORED THE EXISTENCE OF THE ROK.

2. ALTHOUGH LEE KHOON CHOYS ATTITUDE APPEARED FA-VORABLE, I SUSPECT THAT MORE MISSIONARY CONFIDENTIAL

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WORK MAY BE NEEDED. FROM WHAT LITTLE WE IN SINGAPORE HAVE HEARD

ABOUT GOS FOREIGN MINISTER RAJARATNAM'S PERFORMANCE AT LIMA WE HAVE IMPRESSION HE WAS NOT EXACTLY A TOWER OF STRENGTH RE ISSUE OF ROK ADMISSION TO NAC. MOREOVER, SUBSEQUENT TO GOS ESTABLISHMENT OF RELATIONS WITH ROK AT EMBASSY LEVEL SINGAPOREANS ALSO OFFERED SAME STATUS TO NORTH KOREA AND IT IS POSSIBLE LATTER MAY ACCEPT (PERHAPS PRIOR TO UN CONSIDERATION OF KOREAN ITEM.) IT IS THUS POSSIBLE THAT GOS MAY ABSTAIN ON BOTH RESOLU-TIONS IN ORDER NOT TO TAKE POSITION AGAINST EITHER THE ROK OR NORTH KOREA OR IMPAIR ITS NONALIGNED STATUS, LEE KHOON CHOY IS NOW OFF TO TEHRAN, CAIRO AND BELGRADE WITH PM LEE KUAN YEW (I CAUGHT HIM IN BETWEEN BALI TALKS WITH SUHARTO AND DEPARTURE FOR IRAN) AND RAJARATNAM IS PRESENTLY IN NEW YORK WITH GOS UN DELEGATION. THIS LEAVES NOBODY IN GOS FOREIGN MINISTRY WITH ANY CLOUT. SUGGEST THAT DEPARTMENT OR USUN GET IN TOUCH WITH RAJARATNAM ON THIS ISSUE. HOLDRIDGE

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